(b) the details of amount granted by Government for this purpose during this period, project-wise; and

(c) the details of amount utilised so far, city-wise/project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Building by-laws for safety of life and property

538. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that heavy loss of life and property has been reported in the earthquake which struck the country few months ago;

(b) whether it is also a fact that possibility of occurrence of earthquakes of greater intensity in the country in future, particularly in Delhi and its adjacent areas has been expressed;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to tackle such a situation;

(d) whether Government would formulate building by-laws for the safety of life and property of people as in Japan;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has reported that the earthquake of magnitude 7.4 on Richter Scale, which hit Pakistan on 8.10.2005 also caused damage to property and loss of life in some parts of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) The IMD has further reported that there is no scientific technique available in the world to forecast the future occurrence of earthquake with regard to space, time and magnitude and hence no specific prediction for earthquake for Delhi can be made. However, according to Seismic Zoning Map of India, published by the Bureau of Indian Standards on the basis of various scientific inputs, Delhi and its adjacent areas lie in seismic zone IV, which is considered as high damage risk zone.

(c) to (f) The Unified Building By-laws for Delhi were amended *vide* Notification 21.3.2001 to ensure that the buildings that are erected in Delhi provide for requisite features in respect of natural hazards like earthquake, in accordance with the specification/guidelines laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards for construction of earthquake resistant houses and strengthening/repair of the existing houses. Delhi Development Authority, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Council are the agencies responsible for ensuring compliance of these provisions in respect of buildings constructed in Delhi.

The Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) has reported that a Model Town and Country Planning Legislation, Zoning Regulation Development Control and Building Regulation/By-laws for safety against natural hazards including earthquakes has been prepared by an Expert Committee, constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs, which is the nodal Ministry for Disaster Management in the country. This has been circulated to all States, Union Territories who are receiving assistance from the BMTPC in framing amendments to their respective Town and Country Planning Legislation, Zoning Regulation Development Control and Building Regulation/By-laws for safety against natural hazards including earthquakes accordingly.

Resettlement of slum-dwellers

539. SHRIGIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out its, slums survey to find out the status of slums in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any formula for resettlement of slum-dwellers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Slum being a State subject, State Governments take stock of slums in their respective States. However, the Town and Country Planning Organisation (TCPO) conducted a one time study on slums in 1995-96 and brought out a report titled "A compendium on Indian slums — 1996".